



June 1, 2020

David Schumacher, Director
Office of Financial Management
Insurance Building, PO Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

Dear Director Schumacher:

Thank you for your agency's leadership in these difficult times. We know COVID-19 has placed significant strain on our communities, our local and state economy, and on our government agencies. We appreciate your agency's work to respond to COVID-19 and also to help address the economic impacts it will have on our state and our ability to provide government services in the years to come.

I am writing to you for two reasons: to update you on executive leadership and contact changes at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and to provide DNR's response to your May 13, 2020 memo "Immediate Actions to Capture Operating Budget Savings."

Executive Leadership Changes

Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz has hired Kathryn Taylor to serve as DNR Supervisor (Chief Operating Officer). You may be familiar with Katy already as she has worked for several years in state government at the Washington Department of Transportation and then more recently with the Joint Information Center (JIC). Katy will assume her duties at DNR on June 16, 2020. From that date forward, please direct to Katy any questions, information requests, or other needs that the Office of Financial Management (OFM) may have regarding DNR, its budget, or its activities.

Until Katy arrives, I am serving as Acting Interim Department Supervisor. Accordingly, please direct any questions, information requests, or other needs to me (lenny.young@dnr.wa.gov, cell = 360-628-4200) through June 15, 2020. I will be immediately available to help you and your staff with anything you need.

We are committed to working closely with you and OFM in response to COVID-19 and the state's revenue challenges ahead. To ensure timely, quality responses to all OFM requests, please direct all questions, information requests, and other OFM needs to the DNR Supervisor. Katy will be reaching out to you in her first week to introduce herself, ensure a smooth transition, and build even stronger communications with our agencies going forward.

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Operating Budget Savings

DNR is confident that we can obtain the 15% General Fund-State (GF-S) savings requested in your May 13, 2020 memo. Even before you issued your memo, Commissioner Franz had directed DNR staff to undertake a similar exercise. We have identified almost all of the \$10.053 million GF-S savings indicated and are finalizing specifics. DNR will meet this target. We will be sharing details in the upcoming weeks.

COVID-19 has presented unique challenges. DNR appreciates the leadership that OFM is providing to ensure that state government meets the fiscal aspects of these challenges. We look forward to working with you and your staff as we move forward together to restore a healthy and vibrant economy in our state. Please reach out to us whenever we can be of assistance; we will do the same.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Leonard Young

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Lenny Young
Acting Interim Department Supervisor

Cc: Hilary Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands
Brule Burkhart, Deputy Supervisor for Administration
Cassie Bordelon, Policy Director
Amanda Jahshan, Legislative Director
Nona Snell, Assistant Director, Budget Division, OFM
Jim Cahill, Senior Budget Analyst, OFM
Lisa Borkowski, Budget Analyst, OFM